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EXAMINER

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DETAILED ACTION

Applicant's request for reconsideration filed 9/07 has been entered and carefully considered. The arguments are persuasive. However, the limitation of the amended claims have not been found to be patentable over prior art of record therefore, claims 1-2, 4-7, 10-14, 16-29 and 31-43 are rejected under the same ground of rejection as forth below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 10-14, 16-26 and 31-43 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kuiawa et al. [US. 2003/0033550].

As to claims 1, 17, 26, 31 and 35, Kuiawa et al. disclose a computer implemented method and corresponding an apparatus for providing information about the occurrence of at least one predetermined event associated with an uninterruptible power supply in operable communication with the system comprising the steps/means for a worker module configure to determine whether the predetermined event (first

condition) has occurred (page 4, 0034, Kuiawa cites “if the application program detects abnormalities in one or more UPS devices, the application program causes the operating system to generate pertinent GUIs in the manner as describes with respect to FIGS. 3-8 to alert the user of the abnormalities.”); a user interface (figure 6) module responsive to the determination of the worker module, the user interface module configured to generate a user interface providing information relating to the predetermined event (figure 6, pages 2-3, 0025).

Kuiawa et al. also teach the user interface comprising at least one of a graphical portion and an alphanumerical portion (figure 6, 604 (“Warning symbol” is a graphical portion), (634 is an alphanumerical)), the user interface concurrently providing multiple pieces of information (Kuiawa discloses plural pieces of information such as “warning: descriptions blackout” (634), “recommendations: check battery” (634)) of area 604) regarding multiple characteristics (multiple characteristics are disclosed at section (604), figure 6 such as “warning: description blackout”, “recommendations: check battery” and “further recommendations: www.apcc.com”) of at least one of operation of the single UPS and connectivity of the system with the single UPS (the UPS is highlighted one is selected among multiple UPS devices); wherein the user interface has a size substantially similar to a size of a toolbar (the graphical user interface window 600 of figure 6);

Kuiawa et al. teach the multiple characteristics being at least two of battery capacity, time to shutdown, and on-line/on-battery status (page 4, 0034).

Kuiawa et al. also teach the user interface module generating the user interface automatically upon occurrence of the predetermined event (page 4, 0034).

As to claim 2, Kuiawa et al. also disclose the UPS having at least one operating parameter and wherein the information relating to the predetermined event comprises information relating to the at least one operating parameter of the UPS (Kuiawa cites “The UPS devices monitoring application program communicates with each UPS device managed to gather various information such as voltage thresholds, power failure, battery threshold, network communication status” on page 4, 0034).

As to claim 4, Kuiawa et al. also teach the event having a duration and wherein the user interface module generates a user interface for at least the duration of the predetermined event (0029).

As to claims 5 and 18, Kuiawa et al. show the predetermined event being an event relating to UPS communication status (0025, connecting).

As to claim 6, Kuiawa et al. also show the predetermined event being an event relating to UPS battery status (0031).

As to claim 7, Kuiawa et al. demonstrate the user interface comprising at least one of a UPS status monitor, a system tray icon, an event notifier, and a balloon notifier (page 1, 0004).

As to claims 10 and 24, Kuiawa et al. also provide a memory storing information relating to at least one of the predetermined event and the operating parameter of the UPS (0020).

As to claims 11 and 23, Kuiawa et al. disclose the user interface further comprising a control that enables a user to perform a function based on the information in the user interface (0028-0030).

As to claims 12, 22 and 37, Kuiawa et al. also disclose the worker module monitoring the operating parameter of the UPS and the user interface module dynamically updates at least a portion of the user interface to reflect a change in the operating parameter (0029).

As to claim 13, Kuiawa et al. show the worker modules receiving information from the UPS relating to an operating parameter of the UPS (0017-0019).

As to claim 14, Kuiawa et al. also show the user interface module displaying a user interface providing context-sensitive information relating to an operating parameter of the UPS (battery threshold, figure 6).

As to claim 16, Kuiawa et al. also teach the user interface module generating the user interface upon receipt of a command (0022 and 0034).

As to claims 19 and 38, Kuiawa et al. provide ceasing to display the indicator upon occurrence of a second condition (0026, Kuiawa cites “the status window will list the power failure as the cause of the warning state”).

As to claim 20, Kuiawa et al. also provide the second condition comprising a condition selected from the group consisting of receiving a second command, cessation of the first condition, and change in the first condition (page 3, 0026, Kuiawa et al. cite “When the listed UPS device is highlighted, the status window displays a chronology of events that caused the listed UPS device to be diagnosed in a certain state....if a listed UPS device has been subjected to a power failure, the UPS device would be placed in a warning state due to the power failure. And the status window will list the power failure as the cause of the warning state).

As to claim 21, Kuiawa et al. also provide displaying at least one indicator conveying only information related to the first condition (0025-0026).

As to claim 25, Kuiawa et al. demonstrate displaying the stored information (figure 6).

Claim 32, Kuiawa et al. teach means for controlling a function related to the information that is displayed (figure 6).

As to claims 33 and 36, Kuiawa et al. also demonstrates means for displaying the user interface to a user (figure 6).

As to claim 34, Kuiawa et al. discloses means for determining the duration of the predetermined event (0028-0029).

As to claim 39, Kuiawa et al. disclose the user interface being configured to be visually distinct from adjoining portions of a display (figure 6).

As to claim 40, Kuiawa et al. teach the multiple pieces of information relate to at least two ob battery capacity, time to shutdown, and on-line/on-battery status (page 4, 0034).

As to claims 41-43, Kuiawa et al. teach the user interface having a width and a height substantially similar to a width and a height of the toolbar; the user interface including first and second selectable portions; and the user interface module being configured to cause the user interface to be displayed on a display and to be size and disposed on the display to substantially unobtrusive to a user of the display (figure 6, pages 3-4, 0033-0034).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 27-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuiawa et al. [US. 2003/0033550].

As to claim 27, Kuiawa et al. disclose determining whether the event has occurred by alerting the user when it occurs. Kuiawa et al. fail to clearly teach an alarm to the user during the duration of the event to notify the user that the event has occurred. However, Official notice is taken that implementation of notifying the user that the event has occurred by the alarm to the user during the duration of the event was well known in the computer art. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to combine the well known implementation of notifying the user with Kuiawa's teaching of pertinent GUIs to alert the user of an abnormalities. Motivation of the combination would have been to notice the user by a warning signal.

As to claim 28, Kuiawa et al. fail to teach displaying a control in the user interface that enables the alarm to be muted. However, Official Notice is taken that implementations of the alarm to be muted are well known in the art. In light of the rejection set forth above, it would have been obvious to one of skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to combine the well know implementations of the alarm of Kuiawa. Motivation of the combine is for the user to control the alarm if she/he does not want it to notify the user.

As to claim 29, Kuiawa et al. shows ceasing to display the user interface when the event is no longer occurring (0028-0029).

Response to Arguments

Applicant has argued that Kuiawa does not teach or suggest the feature of “a user module generates a user interface automatically upon occurrence of a predetermined event”. However, applicant’s attention is directed to page 4, 0034 cited “If the application program detects abnormalities in one or more UPS devices, the application program causes the operating system to generate pertinent GUIs in the manner as described with respect to FIGS 3-8 to alert the user of the abnormalities.” It is clear that the system automatically generates the pertinent GUI when it detects abnormalities in the UPS device. The system generates the GUI without a user’s action.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mylinh Tran. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thu from 7:00AM to 3:00PM at 571-272-4141.

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

571-273-8300

Art Unit: 2179

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mylinh Tran

Art Unit 2179

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Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2179